

related to the 1997 flooding of the Red River of the North and its tributaries, if the agency determines that the action would facilitate recovery from the major disaster:

(1) PROCEDURE.—Exercise the agency's authority under provisions of law other than this section without complying with—

(A) any requirement of section 553 of title 5, United States Code; or

(B) any provision of law that requires notice or opportunity for hearing or sets maximum or minimum time limits with respect to agency action.

(2) PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Make exceptions, with respect to institutions or other entities for which the agency is the primary Federal regulator, to—

(A) any publication requirement with respect to establishing branches or other deposit-taking facilities; or

(B) any similar publication requirement.

(b) PUBLICATION REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of an action under this section, a qualifying regulatory agency shall publish in the Federal Register a statement that—

(1) describes the action taken under this section; and

(2) explains the need for the action.

(c) QUALIFYING REGULATORY AGENCY DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term "qualifying regulatory agency" means—

(1) the Board;

(2) the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency;

(3) the Office of Thrift Supervision;

(4) the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

(5) the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council;

(6) the National Credit Union Administration; and

(7) with respect to chapter 53 of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 55. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that each Federal financial institutions regulatory agency should, by regulation or order, make exceptions to the appraisal standards prescribed by title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3331 et seq.) for transactions involving institutions for which the agency is the primary Federal regulator with respect to real property located within a disaster area pursuant to section 1123 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3352), if the agency determines that the exceptions can reasonably be expected to alleviate hardships to the public resulting from such disaster that outweigh possible adverse effects.

SEC. 56. OTHER AUTHORITY NOT AFFECTED.

Nothing in this title limits the authority of any department or agency under any other provision of law.

SEC. 57. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this title, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) APPROPRIATE FEDERAL BANKING AGENCY.—The term "appropriate Federal banking agency" has the same meaning as in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

(2) BOARD.—The term "Board" means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

(3) FEDERAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS REGULATORY AGENCY.—The term "Federal financial institutions regulatory agency" has the same meaning as in section 1121 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3350).

(4) INSURED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION.—The term "insured depository institution" has

the same meaning as in section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

(5) LEVERAGE LIMIT.—The term "leverage limit" has the same meaning as in section 38 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1831o).

(6) QUALIFYING AMOUNT ATTRIBUTABLE TO INSURANCE PROCEEDS.—The term "qualifying amount attributable to insurance proceeds" means the amount (if any) by which the institution's total assets exceed the institution's average total assets during the calendar quarter ending before the date of any determination referred to in section 503(l)(A), because of the deposit of insurance payments or governmental assistance made with respect to damage caused by, or other costs resulting from, the major disaster.

STEVENS AMENDMENT NO. 55

Mr. STEVENS proposed an amendment to the bill S. 672, supra; as follows:

On page 65, line 5, strike the amount "\$41,090,000" and insert the amount "\$81,090,000" and

On page 65, line 7, strike the amount "\$135,090,000" and insert the amount "\$95,000,000".

FORD AMENDMENT NO. 56

Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. FORD for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 672, supra; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

SEC. 5. AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO ENTER INTO LEASE OF BUILDING NO. 1, LEXINGTON BLUE GRASS STATION, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

(a) AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO LEASE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Defense may enter into an agreement for the lease of Building No. 1, Lexington Blue Grass Station, Lexington, Kentucky, and any real property associated with the building, for purposes of the use of the building by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. The agreement shall meet the requirements of this section.

(b) TERM.—(1) The agreement under this section shall provide for a lease term of not to exceed 50 years, but may provide for one or more options to renew or extend the term of the lease.

(2) The agreement shall include a provision specifying that, if the Secretary ceases to require the leased building for purpose of the use of the building by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service before the expiration of the term of the lease (including any extension or renewal of the term under an option provided for in paragraph (1)), the remainder of the lease term may, upon the approval of the entity leasing the building, be satisfied by the Secretary or another department or agency of the Federal Government (including a military department) for another purpose similar to such purpose.

(c) CONSIDERATION.—(1) The agreement under this section may not require rental payments by the United States under the lease under the agreement.

(2) The Secretary or other lease, if any, under subsection (b)(2) shall be responsible under the agreement for payment of any utilities associated with the lease of the building covered by the agreement and for maintenance and repair of the building.

(d) IMPROVEMENT.—The agreement under this section may provide for the improvement of the building covered by the agreement by the Secretary or other lessee, if any, under subsection (b)(2).

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the Public that a hearing of the Subcommittee on Public Health and Safety, Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 1997, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is "Protecting Public Health: CDC Project Grants for Preventable Health Services." For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a executive session of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 1997, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The following are on the agenda to be considered.

1. S. : Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997.

2. Presidential nominations.

For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, May 5, for purposes of conducting a hearing before the full committee which is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to consider S. 430, the New Mexico Statehood and Enabling Act Amendments of 1997.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

OUTLOOK SCHOOL MCI/NASA PROJECT

• Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to the efforts of those individuals involved with the Outlook Elementary School project in Outlook, WA. Their tremendous generosity will provide the technology our students need to succeed in school and in life.

The importance of keeping our children abreast of technology is hard to exaggerate. The National Science Foundation reports that over 700,000 new technicians, scientists, mathematicians, and engineers must be found by the year 2010 simply to keep up with technological demands.

Business and political leaders from around the country have called for increased emphasis on technology in education. Some fear, however, that rural